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Bainbridge Islanders Like The Status Quo

The growth of population on Bainbridge Island has been traditionally very slow. In 1940 there were 4,500 people — today there are about 9,000.

The island is a choice place to live, but it is removed from the metropolitan areas that could populate it. Many of the resident islanders prefer it just that way.

As a result, most of the island is still green, unroaded, and for the most part, still lacks the hard square edges of man-made

buildings.

The growth of the island has been "orderly" — with the island's school district able to keep pace with student growth and such services as utilities not overwhelmed by a surging citizenry.

Two kinds of persons are referred to as inhabiting the island — old-timers and newcomers.

Early this year there was an attempt to incorporate the island into one city. The object

of this bid (it was called BID, for Bainbridge Improvement District), according to Sam Clark, an island realtor, was to stop all immigration onto the island.

It was backed, Clark said, by many of the newcomers who, once having found the island's isolated beauty, wanted to protect it.

Clark, who lays claim to being the island's first realtor (since 1940), said the vote on incorporation was defeated three to

one because of the vote by old-timers who want to see new people coming to the island.

An attempt by the Army to put an ABM missile site on the island would have necessitated construction of 240 new homes. After strong opposition to the missiles, though, the island was shelved as a site.

Most of the houses being built on the island are custom homes for people who own land. And since all of the island's eight or nine contractors are tied up

for at least a year in future, there is no one to get into "speculative house building," Clark said.

"There are plenty of view lots," Clark noted, "but there is also a risk with speculative housing."

There are several apartments in the town of Winslow — one of them, the Quay Bainbridge on the North Shore of Eagle Harbor in the Madrone Woods, was just completed.

Another house, the Clark Bain-

bridge northeast of the Washington State Ferries dock in Winslow, has 13 new units projected for completion in late summer or fall.

The housing situation on the island is such that these units are all already spoken for, according to their owner, Sam Clark.

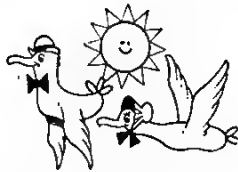
Meadowmeer, with 240 home sites, is being pushed full tilt toward completion now.

Backed by a group of Seattle and local people, the site is on

a hill on the western side of the island looking out onto Keyport and Liberty Bay. There will be a nine-hole golf course, club house, tennis courts, swimming pool, horse-riding complex with arena, and a view of Mt. Baker, Mt. Rainier, and the Cascade.

The island also has two mobile home parks — and exhibits a need for more. The park off Madison Avenue in Winslow has 30-40 units and has been proclaimed a great success, Clark said.

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N. Kitsap Residents Build On Shoreline

Most of the new building in the north end of Kitsap County is in the Poulsbo-Liberty Bay area. And of that, there is little or no tract housing, but rather custom-built homes for individual land owners and apartment complexes.

Eighty per cent of North Kitsap's population lives near the shoreline of Puget Sound.

The population now 13,715, has just a little more than doubled since 1940. But the growth rate has been constant, and the area north of Silverdale remains close to having 14 or 15 per cent of all the people in Kitsap County.

County plans for the north end are included in a study by Harstad and Associates of Seattle.

Plans include a lot of open space in the area with various "nuclei" for human beings to occupy. In the opinion of at least one person who has seen a preliminary draft of the study, the

development as a permanent residential area.

Further north, the area around Hansville is less affected by development because of its distance from employment centers and the influx of people.

Americans Like To Rough It

Millions of Americans like to rough it on their vacations. But they draw the line when it comes to public washrooms, a survey made by the Plumbing-Heating-Cooling Information Bureau revealed.

Vacationers demand clean restrooms with all equipment in good working order. This is equally true of roadside service stations or hamburger stands, campsite washrooms or luxury hotels and motels.

Here are some of their nei-

